

REPORT

DATE: September 4, 2003

TO: Administration Committee
Regional Council

FROM: Nancy Pfeffer, Sr. Planner, 213-236-1869, e-mail: pfeffer@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Environmental Justice Partnership Grant

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve application for environmental justice grant in partnership with community-based organizations and university health science researchers.

SUMMARY:

Staff has identified an opportunity to partner with community-based and health research organizations on a federal grant program related to environmental justice. No local match is required. Staff is working with the organizations to confirm their participation.

BACKGROUND:

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) are sponsoring a grant program called ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: PARTNERSHIPS FOR COMMUNICATION. The program could provide up to \$225,000 per year for four years. No local cash or in-kind match is required for this program. The agencies want to see partnerships between community-based organizations, health care providers, and health researchers on public health and environmental justice-related issues.

Staff is discussing partnering on this grant opportunity with Physicians for Social Responsibility and USC researchers focused on children's health and transportation emissions. The benefits of such a partnership would be:

- 1) to demonstrate SCAG's commitment to finding solutions to transportation-related health issues (with specific reference to environmental justice concerns)
- 2) to strengthen our environmental justice program in an area we do not currently cover (health effects)
- 3) to facilitate meaningful involvement by community-based organizations in

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- transportation planning, and
- 4) to identify and develop the kinds of health data needed to support informed transportation decision making.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Successful receipt of the grant could bring additional funds to SCAG to support the environmental justice program. No matching funds or in-kind match is required. Staff time in support of this analysis is included in the current year's Overall Work Program under Work Element 04-020 (Environmental Planning).

#89345 v1 - RC/Admin NIEHS/NIOSH Grant
Pfeffer



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